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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,758	02/25/2002	Chui-Shan Teresa Lam	09469.014001; 97.0013	5668
22511	7590	12/22/2004	EXAMINER	
OSHA & MAY L.L.P. 1221 MCKINNEY STREET HOUSTON, TX 77010				WINTER, JOHN M
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				3621

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/082,758	LAM ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	John M Winter	3621

**- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 February 2002.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                            2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

4)  Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) 27-35 is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 1-9 and 22-26 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) 10-21 is/are objected to.

8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All    b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/6/2002 5/23/02

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_ .

5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-35 have been examined

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9, 22- 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over PGP Freeware Users Guide version 7.0 in view of Stein (US Patent 6,370,250).

As per claim 1,

PGP Freeware discloses a network system for key management, comprising:

a key management system storage providing a secure data storage for the key management system;(Page 45 “placing your public key on a key server”)

an application using the key management system to manage an application key;(Figure 4-1)

an interface providing a means for managing the key management system. (Figure 4-1)

PGP Freeware does not explicitly disclose a server; a key management system providing process logic for key management system management located on the server. Stein ('250) discloses a server; a key management system providing process logic for key management system management located on the server; (Figure 1A) It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the PGP Freeware method with the Stein ('250) method in order to persistently store key data.

As per claim 2,

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 1, further comprising: a client computer operatively connected to the server, wherein the client computer comprises a user interface to manage the key management system. (Pages 48-49 “Getting public keys from a key server”)

As per Claim 3

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 1,  
wherein the key management storage is located on the server. (Page 45 “placing your public key on a key server”)

**As per Claim 4**

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 1,  
wherein the key management storage is located on a second server operatively  
connected to the server.(Page 45 “placing your public key on a key server”)

PGP Freeware discloses the claimed invention except for “a second server”, It  
would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention  
was made to use a second server, since it has been held that mere duplication of the  
essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St Regis Paper  
Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

**As per Claim 5**

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 1,  
wherein the interface comprises a graphical user interface. (Figure 4-1)

**As per Claim 6**

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 5,  
Official Notice is taken that “the graphical user interface is integrated into a web  
browser” is common and well known in prior art in reference to user interfaces. It would  
have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was  
made that the user interface would be incorporated into a web browser in order to make  
the application operating system independent.

**As per Claim 7**

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 2,  
wherein the user interface comprises a graphical user interface.(Figure 4-1)

**As per Claim 8**

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 7,  
Official Notice is taken that “the graphical user interface is integrated into a web  
browser” is common and well known in prior art in reference to user interfaces. It would  
have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was  
made that the user interface would be incorporated into a web browser in order to make  
the application operating system independent.

**As per Claim 9**

PGP Freeware discloses the network system of claim 2,  
Official Notice is taken that “ client computer and the server are connected using  
an encrypted connection” is common and well known in prior art in reference to  
networking. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time  
the invention was made that the client and server would be connected via an encrypted  
connection in order to prevent malicious theft of data, this is commonly achieved with the  
SSL protocol.

As per Claim 22

PGP Freeware discloses the key management system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a means for changing a key encryption key.(Page 60 "Examining and setting key properties")

As per Claim 23

PGP Freeware discloses the key management system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises means for starting the key management system. (Figure 4-1)

As per Claim 24

PGP Freeware discloses the key management system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises means for initializing the key management system. (Figure 4-1)

As per Claim 25

PGP Freeware discloses the key management system of claim 1, wherein the interface comprises means for diagnosing problems with the key management system. (Figure 4-1)

As per Claim 26

PGP Freeware discloses a network system for key management, comprising: a key management system storage providing a secure data storage for the key management system;(Page 45 "placing your public key on a key server") an application using the key management system to manage an application key;(Figure 4-1)

an interface providing a means for inputting data into the key management system;(Figure 4-1)

a client computer operatively connected to the server, wherein the client computer comprises a user interface to manage the key management system. (Pages 48-49 "Getting public keys from a key server")

PGP Freeware does not explicitly disclose a server; a key management system providing process logic for key management system initialization located on the server. Stein ('250) discloses a server; a key management system providing process logic for key management system initialization located on the server; (Figure 1A) It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the PGP Freeware method with the Stein ('250) method in order to persistently store key data.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 27-35 are allowable

Art Unit: 3621

Claims 10-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### *Conclusion*

Examiners note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John M Winter whose telephone number is (703) 305-3971. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6, 1st Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P Trammell can be reached on (703)305-9768. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications and (703) 305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

JMW

December 10, 2004

JAMES P. TRAMMELL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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